

Christopher Murphy

From: Christopher Murphy
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2019 3:20 PM
To: Christopher Murphy
Subject: Libya Update - Thursday 8/22/19

Below is a summary of the latest top headlines of the week surrounding the news in Libya. Key highlights include:

- Secretary Pompeo, in a call with Egypt's Foreign Ministry Secretary, expressed America's concerns over the continued conflict in Libya, both men acknowledging the need for a political solution.
- As the conflict continues, oil supplies to citizens in Libya continues to dwindle, in a country known for oil export. This is due to security concerns in the ongoing conflict.
- The UN humanitarian agency reported 90 were killed in the month of August due to the conflict. 45 of these 90 were killed by Haftar's forces in a single airstrike in early August.
- The UN determined that there were no military weapons at the airport Haftar's forces recently attacked, determining that the airport was a civilian one.
- Human Rights Watch has called for the return of Libyan parliament member Seham Sergewa, who was abducted over four weeks ago by what is believed to be Haftar-aligned forces.
- UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson noted there is no military solution in Libya, and that the UK only recognizes the Government of National Accord as the only legitimate body in Libya.

Reuters (8/19): [Pompeo, in call with Egypt's Shoukry, urges political solution in Libya](#)

- Secretary Pompeo addressed American concerns over the continued conflict in Libya on his call with Egypt.
- Both Pompeo and Egypt's Foreign Ministry Secretary agreed on the need to achieve a political solution in Libya.

Reuters (8/20): [Libya sends mobile petrol stations to conflict-hit west](#)

- Libya is experiencing fuel shortages in the country, which is creating fuel lines for citizens. This shortage has stemmed from the ongoing conflict.
- Due to security concerns, national distributions companies in Libya have been unwilling and unable to deliver fuel, placing a financial burden on these distribution companies.
- In an effort to combat smuggling and black market oil sales, companies have stopped fuel supply to over 400 stations.

Associated Press (8/20): [UN agency: Rival tribes clash in southern Libya; 90 killed](#)

- As the fighting continues, the UN humanitarian agency reported at least 90 people were killed in the month of August due to the conflict.
- An airstrike on August 4th, which has been blamed on Haftar's LNA, killed 45 people.

Libyan Observer (8/20): [Uneasy calm descends on Tripoli frontlines as Haftar's forces advance on Gharyan fails](#)

- Continued attempts of the LNA to take the city of Gharyan, a strategic city near Tripoli, have been thwarted by local forces.
- The Libyan Army under command of the Presidential Council government is preparing for the fight against Haftar in southern Tripoli.

Associated Press (8/18): [UN blasts Libyan force's strikes on airport west of Tripoli](#)

- The UN mission in Libya condemned airstrikes carried out by Haftar's LNA forces on a militia-run airport near Tripoli.
- The airport was attacked due to suspicions of Turkish-made drones inside the airport. After inspection, it was found that there were no military infrastructure or assets at the airport.

- The UNSMIL declared that the Zuwara airport was a civilian facility.

Human Rights Watch (8/16): [Libya: Abducted Politician Missing 4 Weeks](#)

- Human Rights Watch is calling for the safe return of Seham Sergewa, a parliament member who was abducted from her home on July 17th.
- It has been four weeks since her capture, and relatives of her family believe Sergewa was abducted by LNA-affiliated groups.
- Sergiwa has been an outspoken voice in opposition to the LNA's military assault led by Haftar on Tripoli.

Libyan Observer (8/15): [Boris Johnson: No military solution in Libya](#)

- Boris Johnson reaffirmed head of the Libyan Government Fayez Al-Sarraj that there is no military solution in Libya.
- Johnson also stated that it is paramount that a political solution is reached to regain stability.
- PM Johnson also stated that the UK recognizes "the Government of National Accord as the only legitimate body in Libya."

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